

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: Warm day time and cool night time temperatures were reported throughout the State. High temperatures ranged from 91 degrees in Rome to 66 degrees in Crescent City. Low temperatures ranged from 50 degrees in Portland to 24 degrees in Burns. Thirty stations reported temperatures at or above normal. Thirty-two out of forty-three stations reported measurable precipitation. The Astoria/Clatsop station reported the most with 1.01 inches, followed by the Heppner station with 0.49 inches.

Field Crops: Rains affected field crops in various ways across the State. Rains were timely for fall planted field crops, grass seed, grains, and cover crops in Douglas County. Washington County reported tough harvesting conditions for red clover due to the rain with fall grains being planted when the weather permitted. Rain in Gilliam County, Sherman, and Crook County had left fields too wet to work. Wasco County was planting winter wheat following the rains from a week ago. In the southwest counties, some second cuttings of grass hay was still down while some producers were putting up third cutting of hay. Klamath County had some fourth cutting of hay down and waiting to cure. In Malheur County, the last cutting of hay could be found in all stages. Onions reached the peak of harvest there. Some clover fields were uncut in the western counties. Silage needed to fill. Fall grains were planted, weather permitting. Seed potato harvest was nearing completion.

Vegetables: Vegetable crops continued to mature slowly. Sweet corn in Clackamas County was reportedly in need of warmer temperatures. Truck gardens in Josephine County reportedly had a variety of vegetables available. The Jackson County pumpkin crop was reportedly maturing slowly. In Lane and Washington counties sweet corn harvest continued.

Fruits and Nuts: Grapes continued to ripen. With harvest still about three weeks away, wine grapes needed sun. Recent rain has caused some grapes to split open and get powdery mildew and Botrytis molds, while flocks of grape eating birds migrated through Clackamas County. Winter pear harvest was underway in Lane County and the Hood River Valley, although intermittent rain caused some disruptions. Bitter pit was showing up in Lane County apples.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries in Washington County were busy digging and shipping arborvitae and small shrubs. The planting of fall decorative plants continued.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: The rain and warmer temperatures improved pasture growth. Livestock were being moved to fresher pastures and grain stubble. Fall calves were arriving.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 09/26/10

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	2	21	67	10
Subsoil	3	40	57	0

Crop Condition - Week Ending 09/26/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	0	1	34	64	1
Range and pasture	3	21	46	23	7

Crop Progress - Week Ending 09/26/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat planted	26	16	37	31
Winter wheat emerged	6	-	-	-
Days suitable for fieldwork	4.8	5.5	7.0	6.6

Western Oregon

CLACKAMAS: Probably a normal weather week for late September. Wet early then warm and dry late. Several crops needed a lot of warm dry weather to catch up after the cool spring and summer. Lots of red clover seed still to be swathed and a lot in the swath waiting to dry enough to combine. Wine grapes also needed sun. Harvest was probably three weeks away. Right now the cool days had brought in flocks of grape eating birds. Sweet corn and silage corn each need more heat to fill. Pastures were starting to grow. Fall calves coming. Harder to catch and mark these pasture-born guys than the ones born in the barn in late winter but a world of difference in disease pressure.

COLUMBIA: Home gardeners were marginally happier with some drier weather. End of season weather for grapes, silage corn, etc. was improving, at least for this week.

COOS/CURRY: Almost 3 inches of rain and warm sunny days had greened up pastures and begun growing forage again. Low temperatures were slightly below the 5-year average in Bandon (Coos Co.) and at the 5-year average in Brookings in southern Curry. High temperatures through the week were 1 to 3 degrees below the 5-year average in Bandon, but over 16 degrees below the 5-year average in Brookings. Both Coos and Curry counties experienced overcast/foggy mornings and breezy afternoon conditions most of the week. Land preparation for reseeding was evident, and cattle were moving off the bottoms to feedlots east with new stock arriving for a hopefully extended season. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 42.55 degrees, 0.92 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 71.1 degrees, 1.98 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.05 inches, which is 0.06 inches below the 5-year (including drought in 2005) average for the week. Precipitation for the Current weather year (began 10/09) stands at 61.31 inches, 6.53 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation October through September is 60.4 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 48.18 degrees, 0.01 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 66.26 degrees, 16.68 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.01 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought in 2005) average of 0.04 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/08) stands at 90.12 inches, 9.86 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation October through September is 73.48 inches.

DOUGLAS: Rainy period dropped 1 inch to 1.5 inches of rain over about 70 percent of the area during the past week. The rains had caused some concern about Botrytis molds with the wine grapes since grapes were about 3 weeks late in developing and will be hanging to ripen well into October. Rains were timely for fall planted field crops, grass seed, grains, and cover crops.

JACKSON: Warm and dry all week. Some producers were putting up third cutting of hay. Pumpkin crops were slow coming on.

JOSEPHINE: Cooler overnight temperatures than last week. It was more seasonal. Overnight lows in the 40's. Daytime temperatures were 50's to 80's. Had fog every morning burning off by 9a.m. Grapes continued to ripen. Grapes in the Illinois Valley seem to be further behind than in the Rogue Valley. Truck gardens were selling corn, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash (summer), peppers, beans, etc. Winter squash was not ready. There was still some second cutting of grass hay down in some areas.

LANE: Sweet and silage corn harvest continued. Pears were finally ripe. Bitter pit was showing up in apples. Grapes were getting powdery mildew and splitting due to rain. Tomatoes were slowly ripening and splitting due to rain. Cole crops were doing fine.

LINN/BENTON/LINCOLN: Had gradual saturating rain that soaked the soil very well without erosion. Scattered showers were slowing some tractor work. Some clover fields had not been cut. Squash was variable with some being in very good condition and some slow to mature. Sweet corn fields were slow to mature. Pastures were recovering fast.

MARION: Cool wet weather persisted throughout the week. This kept producers out of the fields to conduct ground tillage. Plenty of clover seed was still on the ground. Clover fields were either still standing or had been windrowed. The majority of the acres had not been combined. No damage had been reported thus far to the clover seed crop. Other row crops were still behind about 2 to 3 weeks. Warmer weather was forecasted for this next week.

WASHINGTON: Wet weather had made for tough harvest conditions for red clover. Red clover had been swathed, but much of it had not been combined. Many growers were beginning to plant clovers and grass seed crops. It appears that grass seed fields were being replaced with wheat planting, due to weak grass seed markets and high wheat prices. Recent moisture had increased slug activity. Vegetables crops were being harvested. Prunes were being harvested. Fall grains were being planted with weather permitting. Everbearing strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, apples, pears, and blueberries were on market stands. Sweet corn and tomatoes were available in late harvesting, other vegetables were abundant. Digging and shipping arborvitae and small shrubs. Pastures were improving with rains and warm nights. Cattle and calves were looking good. High temperature was 79 degrees, and low temperature was 41 degrees. Humidity was at 82 percent high, and 49 percent low. Light rain produced 0.4 inches of precipitation.

Eastern Oregon

CROOK: Wheat was still being harvested and lots of hay was down when the rains hit last weekend. Grapes were about 10 days to 2 weeks behind last year for maturity. Anywhere from 1 inch to 2 inches plus of rain fell on the central Oregon region last weekend, this brought to a halt grain harvest and hay harvest. Weather warming up this week helped to move harvest along.

GILLIAM: Following the Sept 17-19 thunderstorms, many fields in south Gilliam County were still too wet for field work.

HOOD RIVER: Mostly fair weather prevailed through the week, although intermittent rain caused some disruptions to harvest operations. Winter pear harvest continued in the lower Hood River Valley and got under way in the mid Valley. Apple harvest continued throughout the Valley.

KLAMATH: Highs were in the 60's most of the week with freezing night time temperatures. Harvest for all crops was underway. Some fourth cutting hay was down and waiting to cure. Low to good yields reported throughout the basin.

MALHEUR: Both high and low temperatures at normal or a little above, no rain. Weather was ideal for harvest conditions. Onions reached the peak of harvest this week. Potato harvest was progressing. Field corn harvest was getting started. Last cutting of hay can be found in all stages.

SHERMAN: Huge rain storm dumped over 2 inches at the end of the week. Only second time in 100 years we have had more

than 2 inches in September (record was 3.53 in September 2001). Ground too wet to do anything so mostly growers just talked about how to address the strategy of planting into good seed bed moisture. They deliberated whether to work the ground then seed it, to seed directly into it and buy lots of chemical to manage weeds, or to work the ground then seed it and still buy lots of weed chemical. At the end of the week, growers were seeding directly and hoping the chemicals will work. Cheat and thistles will be coming soon. Those who had already seeded some acres were debating about whether or not they might need to reseed if cover crusts or if rains mudded in their furrows. It was not only the volume of rain received but the intensity in which some of it hit. It caused a bunch of soil erosion no matter what conservation practice was used. Water ran out of no-till ground as fast as off black fallow, although the black fallow allowed more soil cutting.

UNION: Sugar beet harvest was underway. Seed potato harvest was nearing completion. Very warm temperatures and dry conditions towards end of the week.

WASCO: Winter wheat planting activities picked up after the rains a week ago. Alfalfa hay season had come to a close in the Dufur and Tygh Valley areas. The only activity noted was retrieving the last hay bales out of fields. Fruit harvest continued on pears, apples and wine grapes. Livestock were starting to be moved to fresher pastures, including grain stubble fields.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: September 26, 2010 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	47	68	58	+1	57	+5	1.01	0.22	3	4.75	2.33	196	12
Bandon ⁸	43	71	57	+1	54	+5	0.05	-0.39	2	1.80	0.39	128	12
Crescent City	45	66	56	-3	43	-13	0.01	-0.46	1	2.57	1.14	180	10
Florence	42	69	57	-3	48	-15	0.44	-0.23	3	3.31	1.27	162	11
North Bend	48	72	59	+2	67	+11	0.02	-0.46	1	2.48	0.99	166	7
Tillamook	46	70	60	+4	73	+26	0.41	-0.60	3	2.81	-0.33	89	12
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	48	79	61	+2	76	+8	0.33	-0.15	3	2.14	0.61	140	11
Corvallis	45	80	60	+0	73	+4	0.24	-0.16	3	2.49	1.22	196	13
Detroit Lake ⁸	46	77	58	+5	57	+19	0.28	-0.31	2	3.41	1.51	179	11
Eugene	45	82	61	+0	81	+4	0.04	-0.38	1	1.62	0.19	113	7
Hillsboro	42	78	59	+0	63	+1	0.33	-0.04	3	2.20	0.93	173	12
McMinnville	45	79	60	+0	72	+3	0.26	-0.16	3	1.53	0.17	113	11
Portland	50	79	62	+1	86	+7	0.30	-0.12	3	3.50	1.99	232	11
Salem	49	82	62	+3	83	+16	0.22	-0.20	3	2.17	0.86	166	10
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	44	84	61	-3	77	-13	0.03	-0.22	1	1.67	0.93	226	4
Medford	44	88	63	+0	92	+0	-	-0.21	-	0.79	0.05	107	4
Roseburg	46	85	63	+2	94	+11	0.01	-0.27	1	1.67	0.69	170	7
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	39	81	56	+1	41	+0	0.42	0.28	2	2.11	1.46	325	8
Echo ⁸	43	80	61	+1	79	+6	0.01	-0.06	1	1.18	0.78	295	8
Heppner	43	78	58	-1	57	-4	0.49	0.28	1	1.00	0.30	143	6
Hermiston	42	80	61	+1	78	+5	0.07	0.00	3	1.22	0.82	305	10
Madras ⁸	39	82	58	+2	55	+3	0.01	-0.11	1	1.74	1.24	348	8
Moro	40	79	56	-2	44	-7	0.46	0.34	1	2.61	2.11	522	5
Parkdale ⁸	36	79	55	-3	40	-17	0.16	-0.12	3	1.69	0.71	172	10
Pendleton	43	80	61	+0	74	+0	0.01	-0.13	1	1.18	0.67	231	8
Prairie City ⁸	39	82	58	+2	55	+3	0.01	-0.11	1	1.74	1.24	348	8
The Dalles	46	86	63	+6	90	+35	0.02	-0.11	1	0.88	0.37	173	6
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	25	82	51	-3	18	-13	-	-0.14	-	0.87	0.35	167	3
Bend	33	86	55	+3	44	+9	-	-0.07	-	0.39	-0.04	91	3
Burns	24	88	54	+2	30	-1	0.01	-0.11	1	0.14	-0.36	28	4
Christmas Valley ⁸	25	88	52	-6	21	-32	-	-0.14	-	0.28	-0.22	56	3
Klamath Falls	30	85	53	-4	28	-25	-	-0.14	-	0.05	-0.42	11	1
Klamath Falls ⁸	31	84	54	-4	30	-23	-	-0.14	-	0.08	-0.39	17	4
Lakeview	28	86	53	-3	22	-23	-	-0.14	-	0.33	-0.19	63	2
Lorella ⁸	25	88	52	-6	17	-36	-	-0.14	-	0.15	-0.32	32	2
Redmond	30	90	56	+2	42	+1	0.01	-0.06	1	1.72	1.35	465	5
Worden ⁸	25	84	50	-7	13	-40	-	-0.14	-	0.22	-0.25	47	3
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	26	85	55	+0	35	-4	0.31	0.17	1	0.42	-0.24	64	4
Joseph	35	81	54	+5	32	+9	0.22	-0.13	2	0.64	-0.52	55	8
La Grande	32	88	59	+2	62	+8	0.37	0.16	1	0.86	0.05	106	6
Union	33	87	56	+2	45	+2	0.32	0.11	1	0.48	-0.44	52	6
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	42	88	63	+3	90	+19	-	-0.11	-	0.03	-0.46	6	1
Rome	34	91	60	+3	71	+17	-	-0.14	-	0.36	-0.16	69	2

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2010: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2010.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.